

Remarks

By the foregoing amendment, claim 22 has been amended to correct a typographical error, and incorrect dependency in the claims has been corrected. Claim 36 has been amended to recite “blue-emissive.” It is respectfully requested this amendment be entered as it does not constitute new matter or require a new search.

Claims 22-25, 37 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,720,432 to VanSlyke et al. More particularly the Office Action contends that VanSlyke’s disclosure of “Lithium oxine (a.k.a. 8-quinolenol lithium)” anticipates a lithium quinolate as claimed, and that lithium oxine is inherently capable of emitting light within the range of wavelengths associated with blue light.

In this regard, it is respectfully submitted the Examiner has misunderstood the term “blue-emissive” as recited in the claimed invention. The term “blue-emissive” as discussed at page 1, lines 21-24 and shown in Figures 2, 6 and 7 means emission of light such that the color observed is blue.

As understood by one skilled in the art, the term “blue-emissive” does not mean emission by a compound of light in the blue spectrum, regardless of what other wavelengths of light are also emitted. Following such logic leads to the nonsensical conclusion that all compounds which emit white light are red emissive and blue-emissive and green emissive, etc.

As advised, it is extremely difficult to obtain blue-emissive compounds suitable for use in an electroluminescent device.

As discussed at page 2, lines 5-7, it was surprising that lithium quinolate made in accordance with the invention is photoluminescent and electroluminescent in the blue spectrum. Indeed, the Examiner's attention is invited to Schmitz et al. attached as Exhibit A with Applicants response of June 2, 2002. At page 3014, Schmitz et al. report that attempted synthesis starting from alkyl lithium, n-butyllithium, did not lead to desired product and that synthesis of lithium quinolate in highly-dried methylene chloride resulted in blue-green fluorescing materials.

In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's contention that VanSlyke et al discloses a blue-emissive lithium quinolate because all lithium quinolates are inherently blue-emissive is without support and contradicted by Schmitz et al. There is no teaching or suggestion in VanSlyke et al. of blue-emissive lithium quinolate electro luminescent material as in the claimed invention.

Claims 22-24, 29, 30, 36-39 and 41 stand rejected under 34 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 6-145146. Like VanSlyke et al. there is no teaching or suggestion in JP 6-145146 of obtaining a blue-emissive lithium quinolate from a reaction in a solvent comprising acetonitrile as in the claimed invention.

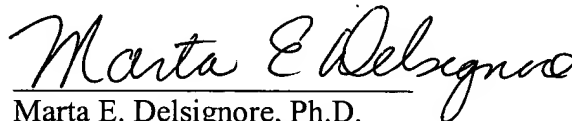
Claims 29, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over VanSlyke et al. As discussed above, there is no teaching or suggestion in VanSlyke et al. of obtaining a blue-emissive lithium quinolate from a reaction in a solvent comprising acetonitrile as in the present invention.

Claims 22-34 and 36-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,281,489 to Mori et al. in view of Van Slyke et al. or JP 6-145146. Like Van Slyke et al. and JP 6-145146, Mori et al. fails to teach or suggest obtaining blue-emissive lithium quinolate from a reaction in a solvent comprising acetonitrile as in the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, claims 22-34, 36-42, all the pending claims, are in proper form and in condition for allowance.

Prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marta E. Delsignore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marta" being the most prominent.

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